

SIX WEEKS OF BINGHAM WORKS WONDERS WITH THE POLICE

Patrol Force Already Increased 600 Without Cost to City.

SINECURES ARE ENDED.

Those Abolished Were Taking \$800,000 a Year in Salaries with No Police Duty.

OTHER REFORMS SOON.

Department Being Rapidly Put Into Working Shape and Its Old-Time Morale Restored.

Just six weeks ago to-day Gen. Theodore A. Bingham started to clean up the police force of the city, and even the most pessimistic admit that he has worked wonders in that time. Persons in close touch with the department who have watched all kinds of reform Commissioners marvel at the amount of work he has accomplished. Already he has saved to the taxpayers \$800,000 worth of policemen a year by abolishing 600 "man" jobs in the department, and sending the men back to patrolling beats, protecting life and property.

There are still 1,722 men on the force doing detail duty. "It makes me mad," said Commissioner Bingham, "to think that these 1,722 men are working for somebody else and not for me." Some of these details were sinucures of the most ridiculous kind. There were men on the force who had to report to no one. Many of the men had held down these same jobs for years as the days when President Roosevelt was at the head of the department. They had little or nothing to do, and in many instances the only official in the department who ever laid eyes on them in an official capacity was the man who paid them off. Between politics and favoritism the city for years was forced to spend nearly a million dollars annually for salaries of men who did no police duty for the pay they drew.

The Commissioner believes that every policeman is a watchman, and as such should be kept at his post whenever he is supposed to be on duty.

Bridge Hog Suppressed. Through Inspector Flood he has managed to relieve the crush at the Brooklyn bridge during the rush hour, and has practically suppressed the car hog who for years was a menace to the honest traveler. For that alone the public owes the new Commissioner a debt of gratitude.

But he has gone even farther than that. In the old days there were so many details at Police Headquarters alone that the men were falling over each other trying to get to work. Now when any one in authority was about the best illustration of this sort of detail was known a few days ago when the Commissioner found there were duplicate and triplicate copies of routine and trivial reports made out by different policemen at



COMMISSIONER BINGHAM

Headquarters. Gen. Bingham could not see the sense in this.

"What is the use of even a duplicate report?" he asked. "We have the originals on file." With that remark there were added a half dozen men to the regular force to protect the taxpayers and earn police salaries.

These easy places in the department were as nothing compared to what the Commissioner found in the so-called



INSPECTOR W.W. McLAUGHLIN.

WHAT BINGHAM HAS DONE IN SIX WEEKS WITH POLICE.

Commissioner Bingham has been in office just six weeks, and this is what he has done:

Abolished six hundred easy details, as follows:	
Vice Squad.....	20
Shoofly Squad.....	10
Chinatown Squad.....	30
Firecracker Squad.....	5
Patrol wagon watchers.....	100
Traffic Squad relief.....	100
Ferry-boat Squad.....	15
Theatre Squad.....	11
Pistol Practice Squad.....	7
Total.....	600

Note—It is expected that 250 more men will be drafted from details for patrol duty next week.

Created the Brooklyn Bridge "Rush Hour" squad, which has abolished the Bridge "Hog."

Bureau of Information. Gen. Bingham found that the city was spending thousands of dollars a year answering all sorts of queer letters throughout the country.

Just Sat Around All Day.

Sometimes letters came from the West worded like this: "John Jones, late of this place, is in New York somewhere. Will you please find him for me?" Who ever received this letter would take the time and waste the postage to answer it. The result was that from this department alone there were five men who enjoyed all the comforts of home while at business for years. They are now back on patrol duty.

That all patrol duties have been given to the Bureau of Information be assigned to the waste basket. The postage bill is small now.

Another of the little details the General found to the detriment of the department was that of a half a dozen policemen at Headquarters with no other duty than to clip from the news-

papers all the stories that had anything to do with the police. Besides the pay of the policeman who did the work it cost \$30 a month for the paper. Now the Commissioner pays a clipping bureau to do the work, and the total bill is \$10 a month. The former clippers are out on posts.

Next to the small details he turned his attention to the guards of patrol wagons. They are the men who hang on to the back strap every time the patrol wagon goes out. They had no other duty to perform.

Now men are sent from the reserve force of the station-house. In many cases it is not necessary to send a man, as the officer who has sent for the wagon stands by the prisoner, and then rides to the station to make his complaint.

Stops General Alarms.

The first time the Commissioner was in a station-house as a squad was being turned out he was amused at the foolish general alarms read off to the men. If John Jones had lost his hat through the carelessness of a thief, no matter if the aforesaid hat was worth only \$2, every outgoing policeman was told to look out for the hat and try to recover it.

On Jan. 1, six weeks ago, the first thing the Commissioner did was to abolish the vice and shoot-ry squads of about thirty or more men. With the next stroke of the pen he sent the entire Chinatown squad back to patrol duty. Other men who enjoyed easy work did not become worried at this, because to everyone it was apparent that these squads were unnecessary.

Then Gen. Bingham discovered that

there were five police who constituted the fire-cracker squad. Originally this squad's work ended at midnight on the Fourth of July, but for some years past the five had managed to look after the fire-cracker inspection all winter, when there were no fire-crackers to look after.

It was on Jan. 20 that he abolished the conductors of the patrol wagons. One hundred men lost easy places by that order. On the same day one hundred men were taken from the traffic squad on the recommendation of Capt. O'Brien. A sergeant and ten men, who had never reported to any one, were also sent to do actual police work.

Still More Snaps.

Seven men in the pistol practice squad were found to be enjoying the easiest times in the whole department. When a recruit went to the armory in Fourteenth street he was handed a revolver by one policeman. After he had emptied it he handed it to another man. That one "hooked" the gun and passed it to another. The third man passed it to a fourth, who removed the empty shells. The last man reloaded it and passed it back to the shooter. The Commissioner could not understand why it should take so many \$1,400-a-year men to load and reload a single revolver.

The so-called ferry-boat squad was abolished on Feb. 2. There were fifteen men in the squad. That same day saw the last of the mendicancy squad of three patrolmen.

Last Saturday seven men were sent away from Essex Market Police Court. Some other ways that Gen. Bingham has saved money and improved the working facilities of the department by doing away with the fifted water that was in every office, by the discharge of an assistant to the Third Deputy Commissioner, and by doing away with the telegraph, and electrical arrangement by which the sergeant at the door wrote a caller's name on a pad it was reproduced on a similar pad on the Commissioner's

It evidently had been introduced with the idea of saving the overworked sergeant at the door the labor of carrying the caller's card into the next room ten feet away.

Other Work Up to Date.

Besides all these details that the Commissioner has attended to and the reforms that he has made he has also found time to try Inspector Schmittberger and Capt. Dooley (who was fined eight days' pay), appoint two chainmen, transfer Capt. O'Brien to the Tenderloin and to make Inspector McLaughlin head of the Detective Bureau.

McLaughlin is of the old school, a graduate under the able tutelage of Byrne. He is generally understood to have spared no pains to give Gen. Bingham the benefit of his experience toward putting the department on a practical working basis. McLaughlin and his men are slowly but surely worrying the crooks out of town. The new crook of to-day, the Inspector says, is far cleverer than the old ones were. "Only the other day," he said, "there was an old-time crook standing in a crowd, when a young crook tried his watch and chain and took his diamond pin. The old man in his day was one of the cleverest of the crooks in New York. My instructions to the men are to pick up the crooks every time they find one, no matter if the magistrates do discharge them."

Since McLaughlin has taken charge there are no more easy jobs in the bureau.

Under the existing conditions policemen who have never been able to fill into an easy job are happy. By adding six hundred more men to the force doing actual patrol duty men have a chance now to get away on special occasions.

It is rumored about Headquarters that there will two hundred and fifty more details abolished next week.

After New Ideas.

Police Commissioner Bingham to-day sent Sergt. Enright, in charge of the Bureau of Supplies and Repairs; Arthur Blot, first deputy chief clerk, and James L. Mack, secretary to Deputy Commissioner Mack, to Washington, D. C., to study the record-keeping system of the Police Department at the capital.

The Commissioner wants to adopt the system here.

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"OLD MUSIC MAN" FROZEN TO DEATH

Body of Children's Friend Found in the Cellar He Called Home.

HAD AN ACCORDION.

Wheezy, Old, Patched-Up Instrument Will Be Buried in Potter's Field with Him.

There is mourning among the little children who attend the public school in One Hundred and Tenth street near Third avenue to-day for the death of the "Old Music Man," who for the past twelve years was a familiar character in the neighborhood. He was found frozen to death in the cellar of No. 2012 Third avenue, the only place that he had known as home. His body is in the Harlem Morgue. It will be buried in Potter's Field to-morrow.

Who the "Old Music Man" was no one in the neighborhood knows, and no one ever cared. He was about sixty years old and had never spoken to any one unless it was to ask for a few pennies. His accordion appeared to be as old as his owner. It played a dual part in the old man's life—a music box in the daytime and a pillow for the musician's weary head at night.

Every drugstore in the neighborhood had at some time or another in the past twelve years contributed his share of court-plaster to patch up the instrument. There were thirty-six of these patches in the musical bellows. They

kept life in the instrument until the "Old Music Man" died.

If the old man ever played a melody on the accordion no one was ever able to recognize it. When he pushed and pulled on the bellows as he manipulated the broken keys all that came forth was a series of discordant notes. But it pleased the little children, and they willingly gave their pennies to the old man. Sometimes their parents fed him with a cup of coffee and a piece of bread. They could pay little attention to the old man these cold days, however, and for the past week or more it is likely that he went to his bed in the cellar of No. 2012 Third avenue night after night hungry.

The bed in the cellar consisted of some old burlap and a little straw. Time and again the tenants complained to Mrs. Brown, the housekeeper, about the old man sleeping there, but Mrs. Brown is a big-hearted Irishwoman, and somehow she always forgot to turn the old man out.

Always polite, the "Old Music Man" never failed to lift his hat whenever he met a man or woman whom he recognized. This gave the neighbors the impression that he had seen better days. He sometimes was heard to mumble to himself in German.

When the body is taken to Potter's field the old accordion, with all its court-plaster patches, will be buried with him.

BAYONETS FOR HUNGARIANS.

VIENNA, Feb. 16.—The outcome of Monday's session of the Hungarian Diet, when a decree dissolving Parliament will be read, is awaited with considerable anxiety in view of the reports that the Coalitionists are determined to oppose to such a course.

The Lower House of the Hungarian Diet, Herr Julius Justh, declares in an interview printed in the Die Zeit of this city to-day that the House will only yield to brute force and that the Deputies will not consent to a dissolution until they are driven out of the building by bayonets.

DEFECTIVE FLUE CAUSED FIRE.

A defective flue was the cause of a small fire in the Lewando dyeing establishment, No. 557 Fifth avenue, to-day. The building is an old-fashioned structure made over into offices, and the first floor is occupied by the dyeing concern. There was no damage except from smoke.

LAMBERT

Harvest Time for Good Clothes Buyers

\$25 & \$30 Suits reduced to \$16.75
\$35, 40 & \$45 Suits reduced to \$22.50

We recently announced a Suit Sale which was an enormous success. But we still have remaining the following:

250 Suits reduced to \$16.75, formerly \$25.00 & \$30.00
150 Suits reduced to \$22.50, " \$35.00, \$40.00, \$45.00

The advance in wool means high clothes prices next winter. True economy prompts you to buy NOW when clothes prices are at low ebb.

Why not, when you can get exceptionally high-grade suits of such advanced style that they will be good form next winter?

Many of these were recently received and are superior in cut and tailoring to anything you can find outside the best custom tailors'.

"Ask the man who wears them."

Salesrooms
39-41 Cortlandt Street

LAMBERT

Between 6th & 9th Ave. 'L' Stations

CRYING BABIES ITCHING SKINS
NO REST, no sleep, Itch, Itch, Itch, scratching until the tender skin becomes inflamed, sore and bleeding.

Harfina Soap
Aided by Skinhealth Ointment, gives the suffering little ones instant relief and sleep, and results in complete cure. Hundreds of women say Harfina is no equal for chafing, irritation, eruptions, dandruff, thin hair, scald head, medicated, antiseptic, deodorizing, fragrant. "Breath of Pine Balsam in Every Cake." Large 25c. cake; 3 extra 65c.; 12c. cake.

Made by Philo Hay Co., Newark, N. J.

ASK YOUR DRUGGIST ABOUT THIS OFFER.

HAY'S Hairhealth
Keeps You Looking Young
Always restores youthful color to gray or faded hair. Stops hair falling. Positively removes dandruff. A high-class hair-grower dressing, keeping hair soft, glossy. Does not soil skin or linen. This Great Hair Food, aided by HARTFINA SOAP, heals, kills dandruff, cures, stops itching, promotes fine growth. 50c. bottle, drugists'.
FREE SOAP OFFER Good for 25c.
Take this adv. to any of following drugists, and get 50c. bottle Hairhealth at 25c. cake Harfina Medicated Soap, both 50c.; regular price 75c.; no free soap given without cutting name and address, and 50c. for Hairhealth.

Stern Brothers

Boys' & Childrens' Clothing

Special Values for Saturday

Washable Russian and Sailor Suits, of Linen, Piques, Ducks and Chambrays	Usual Price \$2.50 to 3.50,	\$1.95
Norfolk, Sailor and Russian Suits and Overcoats, Worsted, Cheviot and Serge,	Usual Price \$5.00 to 8.50,	3.75
Norfolk Suits, with extra knickerbocker trousers, all wool, silk sewed,	Usual Price \$6.95	4.00
Spring Norfolk Suits, with extra knickerbocker trousers of fine Fancy Cheviot,	Usual Price \$10.00,	6.40
Boys' Raincoats, of Waterproof Fabrics, also Fancy Cheviot Tourist Overcoats,	Usual Price \$9.75 to 14.75,	6.95

Misses' & Girls' Apparel

Additional Spring Models—Attractively Priced

Misses' Suits, Eton Model, of Panama Cloth, in Alice, Rose, Navy, Black and Reseda, neatly trimmed with fancy braid, 14 & 16 yrs.,	\$19.75
Girls' Dresses, Russian Model, of Cheviots and Invisible Plaids, plain or with emblem, 4 to 12 yrs.,	\$4.95, 5.95
Girls' Three Quarter Coats, of Navy Blue Cheviots, emblem on sleeve, yokes self lined, 4 to 14 yrs.,	7.50, 8.50
Girls' Wash Dresses, of Fancy Gingham, Chambrays, Piques or Lawns, 4 to 14 yrs.,	1.98, 2.95

West Twenty-third Street

BLAST HURLS ROCK TO CHURCH ALTAR

Workmen in Pennsylvania Terminal Came Near Causing Serious Explosions.

There were two explosions to-day from blasts that were not properly covered with ballast in the excavation of the Pennsylvania terminal.

A rock weighing twenty pounds was hurled by the first blast through the stained glass windows of the Church of St. John the Baptist, in Seventh avenue, narrowly missing the altar boys and landing on the altar while mass was being finished.

The second blast, a few minutes later, was at Thirty-third street and Seventh avenue, and scattered stones for half a block, one boulder crashing through a window of Kirby's saloon and smashing against the bar, at which several men were drinking.

Eruptions of rocks, beams and iron from the depths of the excavation have become so frequent that pedestrians and drivers keep as far to the east on Seventh avenue as they can while passing the site of the excavation.

In St. John's Church the altar was covered with dirt and pieces of rock and the altar boys were almost in a panic when the rocks thundered over the floor.

CHARGES COP WITH LURING GIRL AWAY.

Mrs. Mary Mitchell, Held on Kidnaping Charge, Accuses a Policeman.

Mrs. Mary Mitchell, twenty-nine years old, of No. 385 Humboldt street, Brooklyn, who was arrested yesterday in connection with the disappearance of Louise Moran, a fifteen-year-old girl, from her home at No. 1880 Nostrand avenue, was to-day held in the Flatbush Police Court on a charge of kidnaping. She will be examined at a later date, when the police have laid hands on the other parties to the alleged crime.

The woman, it is reported, has made a confession to Capt. Gallagher, of the Flatbush police station, in which she incriminates three persons—one a policeman attached to the captain's station. The other two are a midwife and a physician.

The girl was taken from her home, Mrs. Mitchell says, by the policeman and taken to her house on Humboldt street. Detectives are investigating the woman's story. The policeman in the case is a married man with a family. The girl has been turned over to the care of the Children's Society.

CAR VICTIM WAS TAKEN AS "INTOX"

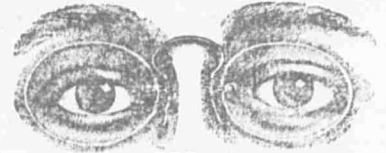
Relatives of Harte Urge Coroner to Make the Police Explain.

The Coroner's office to-day summoned the police of the West Forty-seventh street station to appear at an investigation into the death of James Harte, of No. 125 East Fifty-first street, on Monday of last week.

Harte, who was employed as a waiter at Stanley's restaurant, was found dead on a switch-box at Fifty-ninth street and Seventh avenue early on the morning of Feb. 14, by Policemen James Walsh, diagnosing the case as one of ordinary intoxication, and hauling the body to the West Forty-seventh street station house and tossed him in a cell.

When the hour for going to court arrived the doctorman considered the man too far gone in liquor to send him alone. A young surgeon from the Roosevelt Hospital looked the injured man over and also decided that he was intoxicated. The next morning he was arrested in the West Side Court and discharged.

He was taken to the Roosevelt Hospital, where he died on Monday. More than a week had passed before it was discovered that the man's skull was fractured. He had received the injury by falling off a trolley car.



To All Wearers of Eye Glasses:—

The highest medical authorities advise Re-examination of the Eyes at least once a year. We offer without charge (or obligation) a thorough examination by any of our Oculists, all of whom are REGISTERED PHYSICIANS of experience:—

A. W. BREWSTER, M. D.
(11 years Brooklyn Eye and Ear Hospital.)
EDW. JOHNSON, M. D.
(Many years Brooklyn Eye and Ear Hospital.)
MARCUS KENYON, M. D.
(8 years Manhattan Eye and Ear Hospital.)
MARTIN LINDEROTH, M. D.
(11 years of Brooklyn Eye and Ear Hospital.)

Not only is this important and very valuable service rendered without charge, but if new glasses are required (and you choose to order them) they will be made up at exceedingly moderate cost.

J. Ehrlich & Sons
Oculists and Opticians.
43 Years' Practice.

223 Sixth Avenue 1345 Broadway
Below 10th St. Below 30th St.
350 Sixth Avenue 217 Broadway
Below 22d St. Below 22d St.

H.O'Neil & Co

Sale To-morrow (Saturday) of Men's 75c., 1.00 & 1.25 Shirts

At 50c. Each.

2,000 Shirts—Soft and stiff bosoms, cuffs attached, also separate. Light and dark effects, in percale and Madras. Formerly 75c., 1.00, 1.25, to close at each. 50c.

Sale of Men's Half Hose

Mercerized Lisle Thread Half Hose, value 35c. per pair, at 19c.

Men's Black Cotton Half Hose, unbleached soles, value 25c. per pair, at 19c.

Men's Fancy Cotton Lisle Half Hose (broken sizes), value 50c. per pair, to close 19c.

3 pairs for 50c. (Second Floor.)

Sale of Boys' Wash Suits

Advance Styles at Manufacturers' Prices

These new stylish Wash Suits for Boys are cut in Russian, Eton, Sailor and Military styles; also Eton Blouse, Sailor Blouse, Eton Russian, Sailor Russian and Military Russian. Special prices as follows:

79c, 1.25, 1.50 and 2.00
Value 1.25, 2.00, 2.50 and 3.00

New Spring Coats and Suits For Misses and Girls

Misses' Eton Suits—In a fine grade of Panama, lined with satin and trimmed with silk braid, in navy and black. Sizes 14, 16 and 18 years. Special at 19.75.

Misses' Long Coats—The correct style for spring, in light mixtures, with notch Velvet Collar. Sizes 14, 16 and 18 years. Special at 11.75.

Misses' Pony Coats—In Covert Cloth, lined throughout with Satin. Sizes 14, 16 and 18 years. Special at 7.50.

Girls' Russian Dresses—In Brilliantine and mixtures, trimmed with silk braid and buttons. Sizes 6 to 14 years. Special at 6.00.

Girls' White Dresses—In Muslin and Organdies, trimmed with fine laces and embroideries. Sizes 6 to 14 years. Special.

2.25 to 6.75 (Third Floor.)

Closing Sale To-morrow (Saturday) Fifty Suits for Women For One-Third Regular Prices

Last clean-up of fall and winter Suits. None of these Suits were regularly marked less than 20.00, and some of them marked as high as 35.00. All must go. Closing price 7.00.

On Sale Saturday Morning at 9 o'clock while they last.